

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
A	2



City Lexington

Address 1536 Mass. Avenue

Name Benjamin Tenney House

Use Dwelling

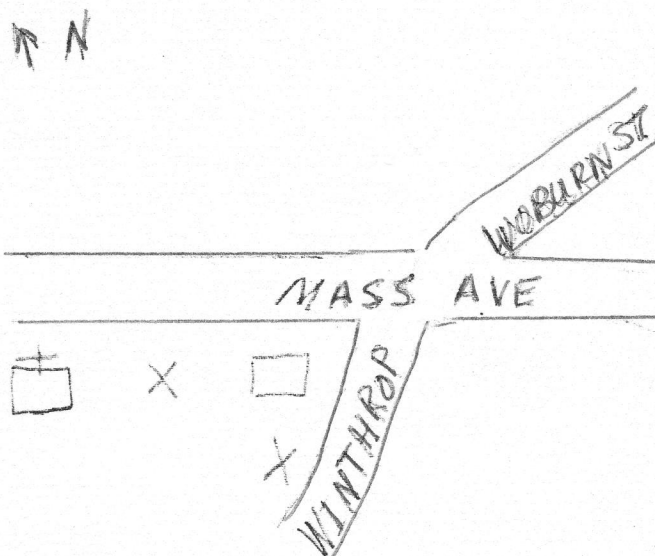
Owner Samuel & Mary Jones

Construction: 1893

Source Minute-Man, March 31, 1893

Style Colonial Revival

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) garage, rear right

Other features Modified (flat top) hip roof - two ridge chimneys - cornice-bracket above cornice . Pilasters at corners - 2 closed (over)

Altered _____ Date _____

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 73'

Approximate distance of building from street 30'

6. Recorded by Ruth Beebe

Organization _____

Date Oct. 14, 1975

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____
MHC Photo no. _____

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Benjamin Tenney

Original use _____

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/	_____	Science/	_____
The Arts	_____	settlement	_____	invention	_____
Commerce	_____	Industry	_____	Social/	_____
Communication	_____	Military	_____	humanitarian	_____
Community development	_____	Political	_____	Transportation	_____

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Other features (cont.) pediment dormers on front & back; one each on left & right- larger window second floor above front door- front door has window & wide lights on either side - front porch extends width of house & has brackets & 3-cluster Tuscan column supports - turned posts in balustrade - bay on left lower, topped by balustrade- small hip roof & addition in rear - bay in rear lower with balustrade - stone foundation.

Construction of this house began in the spring of 1893. The owner, Mr. Benjamin F. Tenney, had acquired the land and the older Meriam-Viles house through his marriage to Mary Bowman Viles (see Hudson, Volume II, p. 693). Before starting construction, the Meriam-Viles house was moved to Woburn Street the first house on the right after crossing the railroad tracks (37-39 Woburn, #302)

From 1918 until 1951 the house was owned and lived in by Daniel J. O'Connell, a Lexington attorney active in town affairs and owner of commercial property in Lexington Center. Following Mr. O'Connell's death, the house was purchased by Edward B. Cass, another successful attorney. (See correspondence, S.L. Whipple to Philip Hagar, in the files of the Lexington Historical Society)

S. Lawrence Whipple, 1984

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town
LEXINGTON

Property Address
1536 MASS. AVE.

Area(s) Form No.

A	2
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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The *Lexington Minute-Man* of March 31, 1893 heralds the construction of this house:

This spring will witness the beginning of operations on the slight hill back of the old Viles house on Main street, tending to the erection of a modern residence for the occupancy of Mr. and Mrs. Tenney of Boston. The Viles house is to be removed from its present site. With the addition of this proposed new house, the almost completed Baptist church, and the residence of Mr. Foster Sherburne, this locality will assume a wonderfully improved and attractive appearance.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Lexington Minute-Man, March 31, 1893.

Supplement prepared by:
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